

THE COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT.

By Ingram & Mills.



"TRUTH WITHOUT FEAR."

BLOOMSBURG:

SATURDAY, DEC. 30, 1837.

SOLOMON NEYHART, Esq. has been appointed a Justice of the Peace, for the townships of Briar Creek, Bloom, and Mount Pleasant, including Bloomsburg and Berwick, in this county.

JEREMIAH WILLIVER, Esq., has been appointed Post Master at Jenseytown, in the place of John Fruit, Esq. resigned.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

There are in the present House of Representatives 47 Farmers, 18 Lawyers, 16 Merchants, 4 Physicians, and 2 Printers; and of the 100 members, 87 were born in Pennsylvania, 3 in New York, 3 in New Jersey, 3 in Massachusetts, 2 in Vermont, 1 in Ohio, and 1 in Ireland. Only 11 of them are over 50, and 12 of them are under 30 years of age.

DIVISION OF COUNTIES.

Petitions have been presented to the Legislature for the erection of a new county out of part of Northampton; and two bills have already been reported to divide the county of Berks, and with parts of Montgomery and Chester form a new county, of which Pottstown is to be the seat of Justice. A bill has also been reported forming a new county out of parts of Berks, Lehigh and Schuylkill, and fixing the seat of Justice at Kutztown. This would cut up two of the most democratic counties in the state, and probably these movements are only intended for political effect.

Proposals for laying rails on the the Williamsport and Elmira Rail Road, will be received until Saturday next at the Engineer's office in Williamsport. Bids must be made for sections of not less than two miles. The iron will be furnished by the Company to each contractor.

In a recent tour through Union county we had much interchange of sentiment with our old democratic friends on the subject of Governor; and we are willing to acknowledge that but one sentiment prevails either as regards their favorite candidate, or the principles which will actuate them in case they cannot procure his nomination. They go for Capt. JOHN SYDNER, and if they cannot succeed with him, they will strenuously advocate the nomination of A NEW MAN.

At the request of a friend we extract the following communication from the Williamsport "Gazette and Chronicle."—The Judge is good authority and from his recommendation we should presume Mr. Hall's improved stove a comfortable concern in cold weather.

Messrs. Eck & Eldred.—I have recently procured from John B. Hall, & Co of this place a stove of a new and improved construction, which I think ought to be noticed in your paper, in order that the public may examine, and avail themselves of the advantages promised by this valuable improvement. The stove is decidedly superior in its combination of advantages to any I have ever witnessed. It combines the following advantages:

1. It is provided with a pipe to conduct heated air into an upper chamber so as to heat two rooms, with the same quantity of coal which would, with the common stove, be necessary for heating one.
2. It produces and keeps up a constant change of air in the lower room, thus preserving a healthy circulation and preventing the unpleasant sensations produced by burning coal in a close room in the ordinary method.
3. The temperature of either room can be regulated at pleasure, and that of the upper room can be continued to within 9 or 8 degrees of the temperature of the lower room, both being as comfortable as is desirable in that respect for sitting rooms.
4. The temperature of several adjoining upper rooms can be so modified as to conduce greatly to the comfort of the individuals using them as sleeping apartments.
5. All this can be done without any considerable increase in the price of the stove, over others in use at present.

ELLIS LEWIS.

Williamsport, Dec. 16, 1837.

THE MARKETS.

In Philadelphia, superfine Flour is \$9 a 9 25; Rye Flour \$6 75; Wheat \$2; Rye \$1 10; Oats 40 cents; Whiskey 41 in hhd; and 39 in bbls.

In Baltimore the prices vary but little from the above.

In Pittsburg, Flour is plenty at \$6 50 a \$7.

APPROPRIATION BILL.

The following are the list of appropriations as agreed upon by both branches of the Legislature, and which only wants the signature of Governor Ritner to become a law, and permit a draft upon "the overflowing treasury." The appropriations are:

Ordinary repairs of canal and rail roads	\$100,000
To avoid inclined plane at Columbia	55,000
Repair of feeder dams, Renewing part of the Northern track of the Philadelphia & Columbia rail road,	59,060
For ropes on said road, and for ropes, workshops, &c. on the Portage rail road,	26,235
For renewing locks on main line of canal, west of the Allegheny mountain,	7,000
For deepening the eastern division below Duncan's Island,	5,000
For new work on old lines, pay of canal commissioners, appraisers, &c.	30,000
To the Erie and North Branch extensions, each,	100,000
To the Tangasentuck extension of the West Branch canal,	10,000
Towards the construction of the Gettysburg rail road,	45,000

The last appropriation is expressly applied to the payment of debts already incurred, after which all further operations on the road are to be discontinued.

The Legislature will meet again on Wednesday next.

The Reform Convention have fixed upon no particular time for adjournment; but in all probability will adjourn in a few weeks. For proceedings see the letter of our correspondent.

THE WHIGS AND ANTIES.

That portion of the Whig party who call themselves the Conservative or State Rights party, and headed by Penrose, Burden, Dickey, and others, have at length come to loggerheads with their new allies, the dear anties; and such a "ripping up of old sores" and personal abuse of one another, we have scarcely ever witnessed, as now occupies the columns of the Harrisburg Telegraph, Harrisburg Chronicle and Carlisle Republican. A split has been the consequence, and the Conservatives loudly threaten to demolish Antimasonry and Ritnerism at the next election. This is spunky in so small a party; but as Ritner must be defeated under all circumstances, it will more substantially exhibit the unpopularity of himself and his proscriptive administration. Only stick to your threats, Messrs. Conservatives—you may get back again amongst your old friends if you repent and behave well.

GENERAL POST OFFICE.

The report of the Post Master General is quite an interesting document; and we shall merely quote some facts from his statement to Congress. The extent of post routes exceed 144,000 miles, and the transportation of mails upwards of 36,000,000 miles. The number of post offices is 12,470. The revenue for the last year was \$4,137,000, and the expenses were \$3,380,000, leaving a surplus of \$757,000. In 1835 the department owed \$600,000, and in 1837, it has a surplus of \$800,000, making a favorable difference of \$1,400,000. The number of payable letters are estimated for the year at 20,360,992, and the number of free and dead letters at 3,000,000. The number of newspapers, &c., paying postage are estimated at 25,000,000, and the number of dead and free at 4,000,000. These facts really present a flourishing picture of the condition and management of the department, and loudly call for a reduction in the prices of postage. The department never was intended to add anything to the revenues of government; and for the public good, all postage on newspapers should be abolished immediately.

Messrs. Hayhurst and McCahen of the Reform Convention will accept our acknowledgments for their favors.

An inexhaustible bed of iron ore, is said lately to have been discovered in Putnam county, Indiana

In a preceding part of our paper we give some of the discussions and movements in Congress on the exciting question of abolition of Slavery. Those scenes occurred on the 19th and 20th instants, and we are pleased to now state the fact, that all is settled by the adoption of the following resolution. It passed the House of Representatives on the 21st, by a vote of 122 to 74.

Resolved, That all petitions, memorials, and papers, touching the abolition of slavery, or the buying, selling, or transferring of slaves in any State, District or Territory, of the United States, be laid on the table, without being debated, printed, read or referred, and that no further action whatever shall be had thereon.

When Mr. Adams's name was called, he arose, and, amidst cries of order, made the following statement:

"I hold the resolution to be a violation of the Constitution of the United States, of the right of my constituents, and of the people of the United States to petition, and of my right of freedom of speech, as a member of this House."

Mr. Sawyer, of North Carolina, asked to be excused from voting when his name was called.

The Chair decided that the request was not made in proper time.

Mr. Wise did not vote on the question at all, but rose and remarked that he was here. He did not hold it as a proper question for him, as the representative of his constituents, to vote upon.

Mr. Adams, (after the Clerk had read over the list) remarked that he did not hear his name recorded. He asked to have his answer recorded.

The Speaker said the only answer that could be given to the call was Aye or No.

Mr. Adams moved that his answer be recorded upon the Journal as he gave it.

The Chair decided that such motion was out of order.

Mr. Adams then wished his request and the Speaker's decision to be recorded as a part of the Journal.

REFORM CONVENTION.

From our Correspondent.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13, 1837.

The Convention is employed in discussing the report of the Committee on the 7th article of the Constitution as stated in my last. Indeed the same proposition is still pending that was then pending. It seems to be conceded that the debate may as well be all had now, as on some subsequent attitude of the question. Many able speeches have been made, and some may yet be expected.

But, sir, there is a subject which claims investigation, and lays open to inquiry without the formality of debate. I mean the subject of Education. I have paid as much attention to that subject as my duties here will permit. I have visited several public schools, both male and female, with a view to imbibe all the improvement to be gathered from them. I have visited a school which is under the direction of Mr. Coleman, in which about three hundred boys are taught. The school is in good order and all things conducted in a praiseworthy manner; but I was most forcibly struck with a cabinet of minerals which had been collected by the pupils and a collection of instruments necessary for illustrating scientific subjects which had been provided at their expense. These instruments are purchased by means of voluntary contributions made by the pupils. Now the plan is this: Mr. Coleman invited his pupils to form a Lyceum among themselves, and agreed to attend with them at fixed periods. No one attended except such as chose. Each pupil who attends pays a small initiation fee at his first admittance, and a small allowance subsequently. By means of these contributions the illustrative instruments are procured from time to time. At these meetings the scholars propose questions to each other for answers. If no one can solve a particular problem the teacher solves it, and frequently finds it necessary to go into pretty considerable research to demonstrate his positions. This method, I am assured, elicits much inquiry and investigation which cannot fail to be useful to pupil and teacher. This plan cannot fail to draw out intellect and insure expansion of mind. It cannot in any case be injurious and is therefore a safe experiment. I am further informed that it is customary for the teacher to walk out at convenient times for the purpose of examining and collecting minerals and plants, in company with his pupils. These walks serve not only as recreation, but as profitable lessons of instruction. The minerals and plants collected on these occasions are labelled and their qualities discussed at the evening meetings before mentioned, and preserved as subjects

of future inquiry and as the means of future instruction.

Now, sir, I am convinced of the benefits to be derived from such meetings, and am bold to assert that few places can furnish more minerals or plants for investigation, than Columbia county; and shall it be said that such a district is deficient in talent for investigation? I hope not. Much less should it be said, that we are deficient in desire for improvement. The County contains the subject of inquiry in profuse abundance; and it contains the inquirer and investigator in the person of every child within its borders. Having then the material and the workmen, let us rouse up and convince the world that we have them. Let us do a little each day for but one year, and we shall convince ourselves and the world, that the way to gain information is to begin on small things; and that the way to attain profound practical knowledge is to add little to little. If we can gain the middle class information equal to that now professed by the best informed, and the grossly ignorant the amount of knowledge now possessed by the mediocrity, we shall have done much. These results can only be brought about by instilling information, and thereby knowledge into the minds of the youth, nay, the very infants of the country at every accessible avenue. They are the persons who are to form the next generation, and hence the necessity of instructing them. This can only be done through the agency of their parents and friends, so far as permission to attend schools and Lyceums is concerned, and through their own exertions so far as application and docility are concerned. With this fruitful field of improvement before us shall we rest satisfied with negative knowledge? Or shall we not rather develop our mineral wealth and mental resources at once? We are invited to exchange specimens with our city friends; then why not avail ourselves of the opportunity thus afforded of acquiring information through their means?

RESOURCES OF EUROPEAN POWERS.

Great Britain.—National debt, \$8,400,896,768. Yearly revenue, \$228,849,800. Population, (to say nothing of colonies,) 25,000,000. Army in peace, 90,519 men, in war 378,370. Navy in peace, 610 ships; in war, 1,056.

Russia.—National debt, \$200,000,000. Yearly revenue \$52,000,000. Population (Europe and Asia,) 46,000,000. Army in peace 600,000 men; in war 1,100,000.—Navy, about 140 ships, and fast increasing.

France.—National debt, \$480,000,000. Yearly revenue, \$157,760,000. Population, 34,000,000. Army in peace, 281,000 men; in war 320,000. Navy in peace, 329 ships; in war 354.

Austria.—National debt, \$200,000,000. Yearly revenue, \$52,000,000. Population 34,500,000. Army in peace, 271,404; in war, 750,504. Navy, 72 ships.

Prussia.—National debt, 114,840,440. Yearly revenue, 30,477,600. Population, 15,000,000. Army in peace, 165,000 men, in war, 524,428. Ships, under 20.

Turkey.—National debt, \$36,000,000. Yearly revenue, \$11,200,000. Population (Europe and Asia,) 21,000,000. Army in peace, 80,000 men, in war, 200,000. Navy in peace, 80 ships, in war 160.

The venerable and respectable Chancellor Desassurance, of South Carolina, has resigned his office; & the Legislature of the State, after expressing their high sense of the Judge's eminent services to the state, voted him a year's salary.

HYMENEAL.

On Sunday evening last, by the Rev. W. J. Eyer, Mr. MICHAEL WALTER, to Miss MARY ANN, daughter of Capt. John White-night, all of this place.

TO CREDITORS.

TAKE NOTICE, that I have applied to the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Columbia county, for the benefit of the Insolvent laws of this Commonwealth, and that they have appointed Monday the 15th day of January next for hearing me and my creditors at the court house in Danville, when and where you may attend if you think proper.

JOHN KINNARD.

December 30, 1837.

THE COLUMBIA COUNTY TEMPERANCE Society will hold its annual meeting at Williamsburg, (near McDowell's Mills,) at 12 o'clock, M. on the first Thursday in January, 1838, when it is hoped that every society in the county will be fully represented by delegates, and that full reports from the societies will be given in, at which time also, one or more addresses may be expected.

Wm. McMahan, Sec.

JOHN S. INGRAM, ATTORNEY AT LAW,

TENDERS his professional services to the citizens of Columbia county. He will feel grateful for business entrusted to his care. Office in the same building with the "Columbia Democrat," Bloomsburg, May, 1837.

SHORT ALMANAC--1837.

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